CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, by an application executed by an operating system, a plurality of operating

parameters having values describing a plurality of different types of resources of a

client device;

determining a value representing a performance measure of the client device based at

least in part on a combination of the plurality of operating parameter values

describing the plurality of different types of resources of the client device;

assigning the value representing the performance measure to a usage variable; and

correlating by the application a resource usage level of the application with the usage

variable, the correlating comprising:

examining a representation of a mapping of usage variable values to resource

usage levels, wherein each tuple in the mapping specifies a particular

value of the usage variable and a particular resource usage level, wherein

the usage variable value defines a plurality of usage thresholds for a

particular combination of resources of the client device;

identifying a tuple of the mapping for which the particular value of the usage

variable matches the value assigned to the usage variable; and

the application modifying its own execution to use the particular resource usage

level specified by the identified tuple.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application suspending one or more operations when the value assigned to the usage variable exceeds a threshold.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application performing an activity affecting a usage variable proximate to a time that the value assigned to the usage variable indicates an existing activity.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application adjusting a rate of operation based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application adjusting a sequence of operations based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application adjusting an active feature based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the client device comprises a client processor and a client memory storage device.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises monitoring at least one of the plurality of the operating parameters.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising monitoring a period of inactivity of the client device.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving at least one of the plurality of operating parameters during an initial load of the client processor.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving at least one of the plurality of operating parameters during a predetermined time interval.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein at least one of the plurality of operating parameters comprises a client processor load.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising writing to a computer readable medium of the client memory storage device.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the plurality of operating parameters comprise a first parameter and a second parameter, the first parameter comprising a speed of the client processor and the second parameter comprising a capacity of the client memory storage device.

17. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising instructions, that, when executed, cause an application to perform steps comprising:

receiving, by an application executed by an operating system, a plurality of operating parameters having values describing a plurality of different types of resources of a client device;

determining a value representing a performance measure of the client device based at least in part on a combination of the plurality of operating parameter values describing the plurality of different types of resources of the client device;

assigning the value representing the performance measure to a usage variable; and

correlating by the application a resource usage level of the application with the usage variable, the correlating comprising:

examining a representation of a mapping of usage variable values to resource usage levels, wherein each tuple in the mapping specifies a particular value of the usage variable and a particular resource usage level, wherein the usage variable value defines a plurality of usage thresholds for a particular combination of resources of the client device;

identifying a tuple of the mapping for which the particular value of the usage variable matches the value assigned to the usage variable; and

the application modifying its own execution to use the particular resource usage level specified by the identified tuple.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application suspending one or more operations when the value assigned to the usage variable exceeds a threshold.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application performing an activity affecting a usage variable proximate to a time that the value assigned to the usage variable indicates an existing activity.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application adjusting a rate of operation based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application adjusting a sequence of operations based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application adjusting an active feature based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

23. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the client device comprises a client processor and a client memory storage device.

24. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, further comprising instructions, that, when executed, cause the application to perform the step of monitoring a period of inactivity of the client device.

25. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving at least one of the plurality of operating parameters during an initial load of the client processor.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving at least one of the plurality of operating parameters during a predetermined time interval.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein at least one of the plurality of operating parameters comprises a client processor load.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, further comprising instructions, that, when executed, cause the application to perform the step of writing to a computer readable medium of the client memory storage device.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the plurality of operating parameters comprise a first parameter and a second parameter, the first

parameter comprising a speed of the client processor and the second parameter comprising a capacity of the client memory storage device.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises monitoring at least one of the plurality of operating parameters.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the usage variable is a quantitative performance measure of the client device.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the usage variable is a qualitative performance measure of the client device.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution further comprises the application throttling back its usage of the client device.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application dynamically modifies its own execution based on dynamic changes to the value assigned to the usage variable.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution further comprises the application pausing between execution of resource-intensive calculations.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a resource used by the application is memory and wherein the application modifying its own execution further

comprises the application dynamically scaling back its memory usage based on dynamic changes to the value assigned to the usage variable.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a resource used by the application is network bandwidth and wherein the application modifying its own execution further comprises the application throttling-back usage of network bandwidth based on dynamic changes to the value assigned to the usage variable.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the representation of the mapping comprises a table having a column representing the usage variable and a column representing the resource usage level of the application and each tuple in the mapping corresponds to a row in the table.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein there are a plurality of usage variables and wherein the correlating comprises the application modifying its own execution based at least in part on changes to values assigned to the plurality of usage variables.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the representation of the mapping comprises a table having a column representing the usage variable and a column representing the resource usage level of the application and each tuple in the mapping corresponds to a row in the table.

44. (New) A method comprising:

receiving, by an application executed by an operating system, a plurality of operating parameters having values describing a plurality of different types of resources of a client device;

determining a usage variable value representing a performance measure of the client device, the usage variable value based at least in part on a combination of the plurality of operating parameter values;

examining a representation of a mapping comprising tuples, each tuple specifying a usage variable value and a resource usage level, wherein the usage variable value is based on a plurality of usage thresholds for a particular combination of resources of the client device;

identifying a tuple, in the representation of the mapping, for which a usage variable value in the tuple matches the current value assigned to the usage variable; and

modifying, by the application, execution of the application to use the resource usage level of the identified tuple.